

The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

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National Intelligence Council

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8 April 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Legislation
Office of Congressional Affairs

FROM: Charles E. Allen
National Intelligence Officer for Counterterrorism

SUBJECT: Request for Comments: House Passed "Omnibus
Diplomatic Security and Anti-Terrorism Act"

1. This memorandum responds to your request for comments on the "Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Anti-Terrorism Act" recently passed by the House.

2. Sections 103 (b) (1), 103 (b) (2), and 303 (a) (1) (B) (iv)

I agree that the Agency should ensure that the Secretary of State's oversight and staffing authority over diplomatic posts abroad does not infringe (or have the potential to infringe) on the conduct of Agency operations or the management of Agency personnel. I also agree that Agency contract employees should be excluded from the procedures of the Accountability Review Boards established under the bill.

3. Section 504

I assume that your reference to Section 502 in paragraphs 17-20 of your memorandum is, in fact, to Section 504 of the bill, which extends the scope of the Secretary of State's existing authority over "anti-terrorism assistance" to include "assistance related to international terrorism." While reliance on committee reports can, of course, be dangerous, I am inclined to agree that the language within this report concerning the DCI's authorities and the conduct of congressional oversight is sufficient to protect Agency equities.

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4. Section 501

Establishment of a "most wanted international terrorists list" is an ill-advised strategy which will only serve to glorify and glamorize terrorism. The caveat giving the Secretary of State some discretion in the compilation of the list does not change the fundamental imprudence of the proposal. I agree, however, that the Departments of State and Justice should take the lead in opposing this provision. The Agency should support their efforts to the fullest extent possible, but should not assume a dominant role in this area.

5. Section 508

The language of the committee report on this section, which places restrictions on the provision of intelligence and other services to certain foreign countries, is helpful, but too vague to adequately safeguard Agency interests. The Agency should seek an explicit exemption for intelligence activities.



Charles E. Allen